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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:

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Serial No.:

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Filing Date: For:

APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR ACCESSING A BRANCH TARGET

BUFFER

Examiner:

Unassigned

Art Unit:

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Confirmation No.: Unassigned

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination, please amend this application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please insert the following paragraph on page 1 after the title of the invention:

This application is a continuation of prior application serial number 10/394,419, filed March 21, 2003, which in turn is a continuation of prior application serial number 10/229,366, filed August 26, 2002, which in turn is a continuation of prior application serial number 10/102,522, filed March 20, 2002, which in turn is a continuation of prior application serial number 09/933,462, filed August 20, 2001, which in turn is a continuation of prior application number 09/776,565, filed February 2, 2001, which in turn is a reissue of U.S. Patent Number 5,867,698, issued February 2, 1999, entitled APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR ACCESSING A BRANCH TARGET BUFFER, which are incorporated herein by reference.